

being taken for providing STD facility in all the Panchayats in Gujarat ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The number of post offices in Gujarat which have not been provided with telephone facility so far, District-wise is given in attached Statement.

(c) Action to provide telephones in Departmental Sub-Post Offices is continuous process for which matter is taken up with Department of Telecom. There is, however, no provision to provide telephones in Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices.

(d) The total number of Gram Panchayats in Gujarat is 13510 out of which 12456 have been provided with Telephones. No Panchayat has been provided with STD facility so far. However, this facility shall be provided on demand and wherever it is technically feasible.

#### Statement

##### Details of Post Offices without Telephone facility

S. No.	Name of District	Number of post offices without telephone facility
1	2	3
1.	Ahmedabad	489
2.	Gandhinagar	57
3.	Mahesana	356
4.	Sabarkantha	403
5.	Banaskantha	324
6.	Bharuch	377
7.	Dang	49
8.	Kheda	484
9.	Panchmahals	400
10.	Surat	505
11.	Vadodara	536
12.	Valsad	428
13.	Amreli	227
14.	Bhavnagar	332
15.	Jamnagar	251
16.	Junagarh	345

1	2	3
17.	'K' Bhuj	343
18.	Rajkot	315
19.	Surendranagar	225
Total		6446

[Translation]

#### Caving-in of Land and Fire

312. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Central Mining Research Institute has developed any technology to protect the coal caves from caving-in of land and fire;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal for utilising that technology for Jharia; and

(d) if so, the expenditure to be incurred thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) Central Mining Research Institute (CMRI), Dhanbad, is developing technology for controlling of Mine Subsidence and fires based on back-filling and cutting off of the oxygen supply.

(c) CMRI has done a general study on stability of land and buildings in Jharia affected by land subsidence and fire. Based on the study the Institute has submitted a proposal to Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) for further study to assess the feasibility of controlling the land subsidence and fires in the area.

(d) Till and indepth study is carried out it may not be possible to estimate the expenditure involved.

[English]

#### Tapping of Cellular Phones

313. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether various security forces, including CBI and RAW proposed to introduce a tapping system with respect of cellular phones;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how far it is legally and aesthetically maintainable and justifiable ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) As per provisions contained in Section 5(2) of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885, subject to conditions/situation laid down, the Central Government or a State Government or any officer specially authorised in this behalf by the Central Government or a State Government may intercept or detain a message or a class of messages. While R&AW is not concerned with the subject, in the case of CBI the operational requirement necessitates collecting of intelligence on crime including through tapping of phone/cellular phones, after following the due procedure established by law.

(b) All the licensees of Cellular Mobile Telephone Services are governed by the provisions mentioned at (a) above.

(c) As long as the interception/tapping of cellular phones is under the specified provisions contained in Section 5(2) of the said Act viz. on the occurrence of any public emergency, or in the interest of the public safety, it would be legal, maintainable and justifiable.

#### DOT – Bankrupt

314. SHRI SYDAIAH KOTA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "TRAI order will make DOT bankrupt" appeared in the 'News Times' dated 20.5.97;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to check the loss of revenue pointed therein ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Tariff order of 29.1.97 was for call charges from Fixed to Mobile Telephone subscribers and this was quashed as per judgement of TRAI. Since fixation of Tariff is one of the function of TRAI, Government have filed a Review Petition before TRAI.

[Translation]

#### Schemes for Supplying Drinking Water with Foreign Assistance

315. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the names of countries assisting the schemes of drinking water and cleanliness in the country and the names of States, with location, where these schemes are being implemented; and

(b) the present status of each of the schemes, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU) : (a) and (b) The required information is given in the enclosed Statement.

#### Statement

##### *Schemes for Supplying Drinking Water with Foreign Assistance*

S. No.	Name of the State	Name of the project and location (District)	Name of the foreign country/agency assisting the scheme	Present status
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	AP-II Kurnool, Prakasam, Madak, Mahaboobnagar	Netherlands	Nearing physical completion.
2.	Gujarat	(i) Sami Harij, Mehsana (ii) Santalpur-II Banaskanta	Netherlands -do-	Partially completed -do-